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the Venus of ancient Britain. The parish, dedicated to this goddess, (Llanddwyn), on the western shore of the island, has been for some ages overflowed by the sea, determined, as it would seem, to verify the fable in the Heathen Mythology, that "she should rise out of the waves."

"Davydd ab Gwilym, the British Ovid, invokes Dwywnwen in favour of Morvudd, the object of his adoration, then on her pilgrimage to the shrine of St. David; and this beautiful production has appeared in English in the volumes, published by Mr. Edward Williams, the intelligent Bard of South Wales.

"Richard Kyffin, Dean of Bangor, was rector of Llanddwyn, in 1485: from this place he corresponded with Henry VII. then an exile in Brittany, and took a very active part in North Wales, in conjunction with Sir Rhys ab Thomas, who led South Wales, in bringing about his restoration."—P. 80.

THE BIRCHEN-WREATH.

"It is still a custom in Wales to adorn a mixture of birch (*bedw*) and *criavol*, or quicken, with flowers, tie it with a ribbon and leave it where it is likely to be found by the person intended on May-morning. Davydd ab Gwilym, addressing a chaplet, given by Morvudd, has the following beautiful lines:—

"*Vy medw rhwym, vy myd ai rhoes.*
My world, my all, by Morvudd given.
Y vun lwys a'm cynhwysai
Mewn bedw a chyll, mentyll Mai!
In groves my fair and I were gay
Of hazle, birch, thy garments, May.

"The birch was the *bay* of the Bards, and this idea is not ill expressed in a copy of congratulatory verses, addressed by Mr. Henry Bulkeley, brother of Robert, the second Viscount Bulkeley, to his tutor, the Rev. Gronwy Davies, on his promotion to the mastership of Beaumaris School, in 1550.

"But, if you chance the rod to use,
For to quicken our dull muse,
I know, your *birch*, another day,
Will prove unto our heads a *bay*."—Pp. 125 and 129.